

In fact, 172 Victory Ships were activated during Vietnam as part of the Maritime Administration's National Defense Reserve Fleet (NDRF). A crew of approximately 35–45 U.S. citizen merchant mariners manned each vessel. I wish to extend a special thanks to the 15,000 or so merchant mariners who crewed the various National Defense Reserve Fleet ships throughout my time in Vietnam. Any member of the Armed Forces will tell you that the cooperation of the entire organization is needed to retain order, readiness, and fighting efficiency. As I flew over Vietnam, I was grateful for our dedicated mariners at sea.

As we pay tribute to their service to this country, remember that the American mariners need U.S.-flag ships to sail on in peacetime in order to be available to us in emergencies. Unless a maritime bill is enacted this year, our U.S.-flag presence in international trade is likely to vanish, along with civilian sealift support and seafaring jobs. I urge you to support our mariners by supporting H.R. 1350, the Maritime Security Act of 1995.

FINCH, PRUYN, THE HEART AND
SOUL OF GLENS FALLS

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, Finch, Pruyn, the heart and soul of Glens Falls, NY, will mark its 13th decade on June 22.

It might even be said, Mr. Speaker, that a company grew into a town, a town that grew into a small city. Look magazine called Hometown, U.S.A. in 1944. Even in this era of downsizing, plant closings, and moves to foreign lands, outstanding management has kept Finch, Pruyn not only a thriving enterprise employing over 1,000 people, but a respected corporate neighbor as well.

Creating and preserving the conditions that allow the Finch, Pruyns of America to prosper should be the first priority of this Congress, Mr. Speaker. The health and prosperity of companies like Finch, Pruyn mean jobs for Americans, growth for our economy, and vibrant, thriving communities.

That's what Finch, Pruyn has meant to Glens Falls, an important employer and a source of pride because of its leadership in the paper industry. That industry, as does the equally important tourist industry, both require a concern for the environment, and in this area, too, Finch, Pruyn has been a leader.

A symbol of that leadership is its present chairman of the board, a good friend of mine, Richard J. Carota. Two years ago Dick Carota was named Executive of the Year by the Paper Industry Management Association, and never was an award more deserved.

Dick Carota began as a \$1.35-an-hour sweeper in 1956, and rose up the ranks. Having done so, there isn't a single job he doesn't understand. As I said on this floor in 1993, Dick Carota listens to everyone, respects everyone, sets high standards, and gets everyone to work as a team. His all-American success story is typical of the spirit of Finch, Pruyn. I'll say it again, Mr. Speaker, I'm proud of Dick Carota, and I'm proud of the outstanding company he leads.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and this entire House to join me in wishing Finch, Pruyn all

the best on this occasion of its 130th birthday, and many more decades of industry leadership and contributions to the community.

HONORING DR. DAVID N. MESCHES

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of the Mid-Hudson Consortium for the Advancement of Education for the Health Professions, which is now commemorating its 20th anniversary. For the past two decades, the consortium has promoted invaluable training programs for health care professionals that respond to the needs of the mid-Hudson community. Vital to the success of this organization have been the tremendous efforts of my good friend, Dr. David N. Mesches.

Dr. Mesches was a strong advocate of managed care even before managed care was an established system of health care delivery. In the hopes of attracting physicians to our area who would provide affordable, quality care, Dr. Mesches and his colleagues have paved the way toward improved care by the formation of the consortium as well as other programs they have created such as the Mid-Hudson Rural Family Practice Resident Training program.

Through the continued efforts of Dr. Mesches, the resident program annually attracts a considerable number of physicians and medical students through an affiliation with the New York Medical College and the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. These health care providers are being trained to respond to the specific needs of the community in which they live and work and the program proudly boasts that 75 percent of its graduates not only remain in New York State but also in the community in which they were trained. This is an astounding success rate and it has benefitted the people of the mid-Hudson Valley immeasurably. We are indeed grateful for it as well.

I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in commending Dr. David N. Mesches for his very generous hard work and devotion to our community.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN F. LONG

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues the outstanding service to our Nation of Mr. John F. Long, of East St. Louis, IL. John Long served as a U.S. soldier from the 125th Infantry, who served his country during World War II.

Mr. Long, originally from Cairo, IL, entered the U.S. Army in October 1941, and fought a number of World War II battles in Italy. Those conflicts included Rome, Arno, the Appennines, and the Po Valley.

Private Long's bravery won him the Good Conduct Medal, World War II Victory Medal, American Defense Ribbon, American Theater

Ribbon, European African Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with three Bronze battle stars, and one service stripe.

John Long, who will turn 76 on June 15, was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army in November 1945. This year commemorates the 50th anniversary of his World War II service, and I am confident he watched, as we all did, the recent commemoration of V-E Day. On this glorious day, 50 years ago, John Long joined his fellow servicemen to accept the surrender of the Axis Powers to the Allied victors. His Army service in the battles of Italy was part of this victory, a contribution we honor in the House today.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1776: THE
BLACK REVOLUTIONARY WAR
PATRIOTS COMMEMORATIVE
COIN ACT

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I introduced, with my colleague DONALD PAYNE of New Jersey, H.R. 1776, the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Commemorative Coin Act. This legislation will direct the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a special coin in commemoration of the many black soldiers who fought for our Nation's independence and our individual freedom. In addition to recognizing the often forgotten contributions of African-Americans during this historic period of our Nation's history, distribution of such a coin will enable the Black Patriots Foundation to succeed in funding the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial, to be located in Constitution Gardens between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial.

More than 5,000 black revolutionary war patriots fought shoulder to shoulder with white patriots, heroically sacrificing so that we can stand here today, a free people and a world leader. This contribution should not be forgotten. As generations of children visit our Nation's Capital and walk the mall, they should have a concrete reminder that we are descendants of men and women of all races and ethnic backgrounds and only together can we create a Nation in which individual social freedom and justice are a reality.

I urge my colleagues to join in honoring black revolutionary war patriots through this commemorative coin act and enable the Black Patriots Foundation to complete the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial here in Washington, DC.

FAIRNESS FOR PAKISTAN

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues' provisions in the American Overseas Interests Act that address basic issues of fairness for Pakistan.

I think it was the Greek poet Aeschylus who once wrote that the greatest wish a man could have was to live in interesting times.